

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 – 100. (Cancelled)

101. (New) A method for protecting at least one baseball area of a baseball playing field comprising the steps of:

preparing or assembling a weighted baseball area cover from a flexible material and at least one weight for retaining said flexible material in a desired position after said flexible material has been situated over the at least one baseball area of said baseball playing field;

said at least one weight facilitating retaining said weighted baseball area cover over said at least one baseball area in order to protect said at least one baseball area from at least one of wind, rain or debris.

102. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

enabling a user to substantially simultaneously store said flexible material and said at least one weight at a storage area away from said at least one baseball area;

enabling said user to substantially simultaneously hand deliver said flexible material and said at least one weight to said at least one baseball area; and

enabling said user to place said flexible material over said at least one baseball area to protect said at least one baseball area from said at least one of wind, rain or debris.

103. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

moving said flexible material and said at least one weight substantially simultaneously by moving said weighted baseball area cover.

104. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

storing said flexible material and said at least one weight substantially simultaneously by moving said weighted baseball area cover from said at least one baseball area to said storage area.

105. (New) The method as recited in claim 103 wherein said moving step is performed by hand.

106. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be retained in said flexible material.

107. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be remote from, but secured to, said flexible material.

108. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be situated in a seam in said flexible material.

109. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said at least one weight to be received between plies of said flexible material that define a weight-receiving area.

110. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

heat sealing said flexible material to define a weight-receiving area; and placing said at least one weight in said weight-receiving area.

111. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

sewing said flexible material to provide a weight-receiving area; and retaining said at least one weight in said weight-receiving area.

112. (New) The method as recited in claim 111 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said weight-receiving area to extend continuously around a perimeter of said flexible material.

113. (New) The method as recited in claim 111 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing a plurality of separate weight-receiving areas to be provided in a perimeter of said flexible material in intervals.

114. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

sewing said flexible material to provide said weight-receiving area that extends at least partly around said perimeter; and

sewing at least one interior weight-receiving area toward a center area of said flexible material.

115. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

creating a plurality of separate weight-receiving areas in said perimeter in intervals.

116. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

creating a plurality of weight-receiving areas extending between a plurality of points on said perimeter.

117. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

creating said weight-receiving area to define a spiral interior of said perimeter in said flexible material.

118. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said flexible material to be folded onto itself and heat sealed or sewn to define said weight-receiving area.

119. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method comprises the step of:

weighting said flexible material with said at least one weight, wherein said at least one weight comprises at least one of a chain, pellets, sand, earth, rock, concrete, aggregate, polymer, or a second fabric.

120. (New) The method as recited in claim 119 wherein said at least one weight comprises a metal.

121. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said flexible material to comprise a predetermined configuration to define said perimeter to comprise a circumference of at least six feet.

122. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method further comprises the step of:

causing said flexible material to comprise a predetermined configuration that defines a circular shape or polygonal shape.

123. (New) The method as recited in claim 122 wherein said polygonal shape defines a pentagon, hexagon or octagon.

124. (New) The method as recited in claim 122 wherein said polygonal shape comprises a non-equilateral pentagon, hexagon or octagon.

125. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said flexible material comprises at least one of the following: vinyl laminated polyester; coated polyester; polyethylene sheet or woven polyethylene; a vinyl laminated or coated onto a polyester scrim fabric; a vinyl sheet; a vinyl laminated to a polymer woven scrim fabric; a vinyl coated polymer woven scrim; a vinyl laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim; or a polymer laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim.

126. (New) The method as recited in claim 111 wherein said flexible material comprises vinyl laminated polyester; coated polyester; polyethylene sheet or woven polyethylene; a vinyl laminated or coated onto a polyester scrim fabric; a vinyl sheet; a vinyl laminated to a polymer woven scrim fabric; a vinyl coated polymer woven scrim; a vinyl laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim; or a polymer laminated or coated onto any receptive fabric scrim.

127. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said method comprises the step of:

situating a plurality of weights in said perimeter.

128. (New) The method as recited in claim 103 wherein said moving step is performed by rolling said weighted baseball area cover onto a storage/installer device.

129. (New) The method as recited in claim 128 wherein said storage/installer device comprises some grips for lifting said storage/installer device.

130. (New) The method as recited in claim 101 wherein said at least one baseball area is a pitcher's mound area or a home plate area.